GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4978
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2001
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEM IN DOT
PRABHUNATH SINGH;SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the accounting information system in Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is lacking in assessing the requirement of funds of the department;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it had incurred expenditure of Rs. 448.07 crore and at the same time surrendered Rs. 11.91 crore on the last day of the financial year without knowing where from the sum became surplus; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the DoT to tone up their said system to avoid such lapses in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (d): In the year 1996-97, the excess of Rs. 448.07 crores under Revenue (voted) portion is mainly under appropriation from Telecom surplus (due to more revenue realization and less expenditure under Working Expenses), which is only a technical excess in which no actual expenditure in excess of the sanctioned grant was incurred. The amount of Rs. 11.91 crores surrendered under Revenue is under Plan controlled by the ministry of Finance, whereas the excess is under non-plan, controlled by DOT. The surrender of savings was finalized based on the actuals up to January 1997 and the anticipated expenditure during February and March 1997.
The accounting system in the Department of Telecommunications has been revamped consequent on the formation of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited. The operational revenue and expenditure now forms part of the Company accounts.